



# XAT

XAVIER APTITUDE TEST

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**Gautam Puri**



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# XAT Critical Reasoning Question 2008 - 2012





**Question 1–2:** According to recent reports, CEOs of large organisations are paid more than CEOs of small organizations. It does not seem fair that just because a CEO is heading a big organization s/he should be paid more. CEOs salary should be related to performance, especially growth in terms of sales and profits. Of course, big organisations are more complex than the small, but all CEOs require significant amount of energy and time in managing organisations. There is no proof then CEOs of small organisations. All CEOs should be paid according to their performance.

**Question – 1**

A person seeking to refute the argument might argue that

- A. CEOs should be paid equally.
- B. Managing big organisation is more challenging than small .
- C. If CEOs of small companies perform well, the company would become big and so would be CEOs salary.
- D. CEOs who travel more should be paid more.
- E. Highly qualified CEOs should be paid more because they have acquired difficult education.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2008)**



## Question – 2

Which of the following, if true, would strengthen the speaker's argument?

- A. CEOs of small organisations come from good educational background.
- B. CEOs in big organisation take much longer to reach top, as compared to their counterparts in small organisations.
- C. CEOs of big organisations are very difficult to hire.
- D. A few big family businesses have CEOs from within the family.
- E. Big organisations contribute more towards moral development of society.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2008)**



## Question – 3

Hindi ought to be the official language of India. There is no reason of the government to spend money printing documents in difference languages, just to cater to people who cannot read/write Hindi. The government has better ways to spend tax payers' money. People across India should read/write Hindi or learn it at the earliest.

Which of the following, if true, would weaken the speaker's argument the most?

- A. The government currently translates official documents into more than eighteen languages.
- B. Hindi is the most difficult language in the world to speak.
- C. People who are multilingual usually pay maximum taxes.
- D. Mot people who travel across India learn Hindi within five years.
- E. Making Hindi the official language is a politically unpopular idea.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2008)**



## Question – 4

Ram, an economist, and Ramesh, an astrologer, had a debate. Ram said “Astrology does not work. It just cannot predict.” “It can predict better than your subject” rebutted Ramesh.

The evidence that best resolves the above debate will be:

- A. Conduct a survey among scientist asking one of the two should be considered as a science.
- B. Compare past performance of astrologers and economists in terms of number of predictions which have come true.
- C. Conduct a survey among economists asking their opinion regarding the ability of economic theory to predict economic phenomena.
- D. Conduct an experiment where both astrologers and economists would be asked to predict the future. Compare the number of predictions that come true.
- E. Conduct an experiment where both astrologers and economists would be asked to predict the future. Compare the percentage of predictions that come true.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2009)**



## Question –5

“There is nothing so stupid as an educated man, if you can get him off the thing he was educated in.” **(1 Mark)**

Which of the following, if true, most seriously undermines the author’s contention?

- A. True education implies a well rounded exposure to major subjects.
- B. An educated man will not discuss things which he does not understand.
- C. The cost of a general education has led to the unfortunate fact that a person’s education is confined to one field.
- D. Stupidity, like intelligence, is relative and therefore depends on the intelligence of the persons’ peers.
- E. Education is one of the main causes of people recognizing their capabilities and developing them further.

**(2009)**



## Question – 6

In this era of global capital flows, so much money is now flowing throughout the world that no single country can fight the problem on inflation effectively by tightening its monetary policy.

If the above is true, which of the following could be most logically concluded? **(1 Mark)**

- A. Changes in cash reserve ratio by Reserve Bank of India will control the rate inflation if India.
- B. Countries' finance ministries have sufficient control over their respective economies.
- C. Countries' finance ministries have insufficient control over their respective economies.
- D. Inflation does not matter as long as incomes increase.
- E. Citizens should limit their consumption which will reduce the demand of products, thus reducing inflation.

**(2009)**



## Question – 7

Many entrepreneurs try to control the composition of their boards of directors, but more experienced entrepreneurs tend to share control, inviting participation from institutional investors and outside directors. Which option best summarizes the idea that might be guiding experienced entrepreneurs' behaviour? **(1 Mark)**

- A. The experienced entrepreneurs expect experienced directors to monitor the performance of the enterprise and be a sounding board.
- B. The experienced entrepreneurs expect the institutional investors to support the opinion of entrepreneurs on all major decisions.
- C. The experienced entrepreneurs expect the institutional investors and outside directors to agree to higher remuneration for the board members.
- D. Experienced entrepreneurs expect the experienced directors to engage in day-to-day management of the company.
- E. More the number of influential people on board, the easier it is to raise finances.

**(2009)**





## Question – 8

All the parliamentarians whom the reporter interviewed told that they had voted as per their conscience. Therefore, probably all the parliamentarians voted as per their conscience. This argument is an example of :

- A. Inductive generalization
- B. Predictive argument
- C. Generalization based on authority
- D. Deduction generalization
- E. Argument from analogy

**(1 Mark)**

**(2009)**



## Question – 9

As man casts off worn-out garments and puts on others that are new, similarly the embodied soul, casting off worn-out bodies, enters into others, which are new. Of the following, which one best typifies the argument?

- A. Inductive generalization
- B. Predictive argument
- C. Argument from authority
- D. Causal argument
- E. Argument from analogy

**(1 Mark)**

**(2009)**



## Question – 10

Unlike other retail outlets, where items are purchased in any number of units the customer wants, in super-markets items are grouped in bulk packages. This bulk buying offers savings to the customer. The option to buy at wholesale prices by buying in bulk makes super-markets a practical choice for budget-conscious consumers.

**Which of the following is an assumption necessary to the author's argument?**

- A. Super-markets often have greater buying power and lower overhead costs, so they can offer a greater variety of products than regular retail outlets.
- B. Super-markets are often more conveniently located and have better parking facilities.
- C. The emergence of super-markets has caused many small retail stores to close down and thus eliminate competition.
- D. It is economically wise to buy single items since bulk packages seldom offer significant savings.
- E. The financial savings from purchasing bulk packages may outweigh the inconvenience of being unable to purchase in any number of units that suits the customers' need.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2010)**



**Analyse the following passage and answer the questions 11-12.**

Some words are highly inflammable. Fusion is one of them. you can get two sets of people into a war mode by just uttering the words “fusion music”. One set will breathe fire and say it violates the purity of music: the other set will tell you earnestly that it opens up the borders of music.

**Question – 11**

The statement “Some words are highly inflammable”

- A. captures the essence of the passage.
- B. is a linguistic embellishment to the passage.
- C. is an irrelevant exaggeration used in the passage.
- D. is an unsubstantiated dogmatic assertion.
- E. is a contradictory statement in the passage.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2010)**



## Question – 12

From the purists' perspective, the “war” between the two sets of people can best be

- A. categorized as an ideological conflict between two ideas
- B. termed as a conflict between generations – the younger versus the older generation.
- C. an attempt to preserve the core principles.
- D. seen as an attempt of people at the margin to occupy centre-stage.
- E. seen as preserving the social identity of purists.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2010)**



**Analyse the following passage and provide an appropriate answer for the questions 13 through 15 that follow.**

When we speak of the “probability of death”, the exact meaning of this expression can be defined in the following way only. We must not think of an individual, but of a certain class as a whole, e.g., “all insured men forty-one years old living in a given country and not engaged in certain dangerous occupations.” A probability of death is attached to the class of men or to another class that can be defined in a similar way. We can say nothing about the probability of death of an individual even if we know his condition of life and health in detail. The phrase “probability of death”, when it refers to a single person, has not meaning at all.

**Question – 13**

Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the passage?

1. Singular, non replicable events can be assigned numerical probability value.
2. Probability calculation requires data of the class of people or of events.
3. The data about a class of events can be used to predict the future of any specific event.

- A. 1 only  
D. 2 and 3

- B. 2 only  
E. 1 and 3

- C. 1 and 2

**(1 Mark)**



## Question – 14

Which of the following statements would the author(s) disagree to the most? **(1 Mark)**

The outcome of a boxing match to be held in Los Angeles between two boxers, Joe and Mark, belonging to two different boxing clubs can be analysed and an outcome can be assigned a numerical value:

- A. if an assessment of the boxers' current fitness levels and their strengths is done by experts.
- B. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the boxers belonging to the two clubs.
- C. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the two boxers at different venues.
- D. by comparing outcomes of fights between the two boxers against same opponents.
- E. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the two boxers at the same venue in Los Angeles.

**(2010)**



## Question – 15

Which of the following statements would be author(s) agree to the most

The outcome of a boxing match to be held in Los Angeles between two boxers, Joe and Mark, belonging to two different boxing clubs can be analysed and an outcome can be assigned a numerical value: **(1 Mark)**

- A. if an assessment of the boxers current fitness levels and their strengths is done by experts.
- B. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the boxers belonging to the two clubs
- C. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the two boxers at different venues.
- D. by comparing outcomes of fights between the two boxers against same opponents.
- E. by analysis of outcomes of fights between the two boxers at the same venue in Los Angeles.

**(2010)**



**Analyse the following passage and provide an appropriate answer for the question 16 through 17 that follow.**

Silver is especially and repetitively savage about what he sees as the extravagant claims made for particle physics, arguing that once the proton, neutron, and electron were found and their properties experimentally confirmed, the very expensive searches for ever more exotic particles, such as the Higgs Boson, were increasingly harder to justify other than by their importance to particle physicists. Most of the particles resemble ecstatic happiness: They are very short-lived and have nothing to do with everyday life. His repeated assault goes to the level of sarcasm: "Finding the Higgs Boson will be a magnificent technical and theoretical triumph. Like a great Bobby Fisher game". Of course, this is a tad unfair, even if some of the claims of its practitioners invite such assaults on their field.

**Question – 16**

Which of the following, if true, will weaken the argument described in the passage?

- A. All streams of new science need to undergo through a period of uncertainty and we should not criticise research in particle physics alone.
- B. Necessity is the mother of every invention.
- C. Knowledge has preceded application in all spheres of science.
- D. Funding agency supporting research on Higgs Boson do not mind wasting their money.
- E. Do not expect everyone to appreciate everything.

**(1 Mark)**



## Question – 17

Identify the statement(s) that is (are) logically consistent with the content of the paragraph:

- I. Silver is an ardent critic of Higgs Boson theory.
- II. Everyday life has nothing to do with experimental confirmation of the properties of proton, neutron and electron.
- III. Identifying more information about Higgs Boson is a significant contribution to particle physics.
- IV. Research on exotic particles in particle physics is an expensive proposition.

- A. Only I
- D. Only IV

- B. Only II
- E. Only I and IV

- C. Only II and IV

**(1 Mark)**

**(2010)**



## Question – 18

Widespread use of lectures in class-rooms in business schools leads to severe negative consequences. The first consequence is theoretically knowledgeable graduates who cannot apply theory to solve real world problems. The more serious consequence is that lectures encourage a feeling of total omniscience among them which persists for quite some time after graduating. This feeling prevents them from learning from their subordinates and colleagues.

**Which of the following can best help to reduce these negative consequences among the students in a business school?**

- A. Use illustrations of real life problems in classrooms.
- B. Send the students to find business problems so that it can be discussed in classrooms.
- C. Business education to be given to students, who have work experience.
- D. Modify the pedagogy to have knowledge of theory and application in parallel.
- E. Removing theoretical inputs from the curriculum altogether; only practical problems to be discussed in class rooms.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2010)**





## Question – 19

“Indigestion? Acidity? Unable to sleep? ... Don’t spend the night tossing and turning! Take Magix for a sound, restful sleep ... you’ll soon fall asleep, and wake up refreshed and energized. Remember ... Magix when you are suffering from acidity and need that sleep!”

**(1 Mark)**

**All of the following are claims of Magix except:**

- A. A good night’s sleep
- B. Added energy
- C. A cure to indigestion
- D. Quickly falling asleep
- E. A restful slumber

**(2010)**



## Question – 20

Filmmakers tend to highlight their emotional points with visuals, rather than dialogue. Words tend to be the tools of playwrights. Images are the stuff that films are made of. Nevertheless, many successful films have been made from stage plays and contain little else than one location or one stage set.

**The option most opposite to the idea in the paragraph:**

- A. Films are not necessarily a filmmaker's medium.
- B. Films are not limited to any one particular style.
- C. Films are solely built upon visual and eye-catching scenes.
- D. Films are better made by playwrights and novelists.
- E. Films perhaps are better understood by literary critics.

(1 Mark)

(2010)



## Question – 21

The increase in the number of reality shows on television channels bolsters the contention that channels owners are more interested in boosting their revenues by pandering to voyeuristic tendencies of viewers. **(1 Mark)**

**The premise behind the above argument is that**

- A. reality shows on television channels are a recent phenomenon.
- B. everything that a channel broadcasts should be educational.
- C. reality shows on television appeal to the basic instincts of viewers.
- D. reality shows make more money than other types of programs.
- E. the channel owners can influence what is watched by the viewers.

**(2010)**



## Question – 22

*Perhaps this war will pass like the others which divided us, leaving us dead, killing us along with the killers but the shame of this time puts its burning fingers to our faces.*

*Who will erase the ruthlessness hidden in innocent blood?*

**Which of the following is certainly not implied in the above verse?**

- A. Killers also get killed in war.
- B. Humanity gets divided by war and reunites afterwards in peace.
- C. This war is especially ruthless.
- D. This war is shameful to the entire humanity.
- E. None can obliterate the ruthlessness of this war.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2011)**



**Answer questions 23 and 24 on the basis of the following conversation between two friends, Paradox (P) and Herodox (H)**

**P:** The human body is but the tomb of the soul and the visible world of matter is appearance that must be overcome if we are to know reality. The former is an integral part of "being", that which can neither come into existence nor cease to exist for it always is. Being is unmoved and undisturbed. Motion and disturbance belong to the realm of "becoming", the changing world of unreality rather than of "being" in which true reality resides. Further, motion & change by belonging to the realm of "becoming" by having no separate existence of their own are logically inconsistent with reality and hence, unworthy of serious study.

**H:** All things are in a state of perpetual flux. Permanence, and by extension, the concept of "being" is only an illusion. This change and continual transformation, through an often disorderly process of conflict and survival of the fittest, is the underlying principle at work in the universe. It is from this principle that all things come into existence, and forms the basis for the morals and governance patterns that attempt to preserve the social thread of societies. By extension, the study of human activity through the lens of an idealized state of "being" and as a basis for formulating moral codes of conduct is inappropriate at best.



## Question – 23

Which of the following statements could be considered as logically consistent with the views of Paradox in the above paragraphs?

- i. A fly travelling on a flying arrow perceives it to be at rest. Therefore the flying arrow belongs to the realm of being.
- ii. The activities of day to day life are concerned with the unreal part of human existence and hence, should not be subject to moral standards.
- iii. Maintaining a balance among the various constituents of society is essential to the well-being and the continuing existence of the soul.
- iv. Conflicts and the coming of spontaneous order do not have any underlying causes that are relevant for study as the notion of perpetual flux itself is erroneous.
- v. The real is and cannot be non-existent. Further, reality is one and unique.

- A. i only
- B. ii and iv
- C. iv and v
- D. i, ii and iii
- E. i, iv and v

**(3 Marks)**

**(2011)**



## Question – 24

Which of the following statements best represents an implication of Herodotus's ideas?

- A. Religion and other approaches that stress on maintaining and developing the purity of the human soul are subjects that do not merit serious attention.
- B. The setting of moral standards and codes of governance have to be more procedure-oriented with a focus on the way humans conduct themselves in their interactions with each other.
- C. Maintaining a balance between various constituents of the society and conflict prevention is essential to the maintenance of social order and a prerequisite for governance.
- D. As the real world relevant to the existence of human beings is in a state of perpetual flux, attempting to study the same in a systematic manner would be meaningful despite reality itself having changed by then.
- E. There is no notion of time- space-invariant reality. There can be numerous realities both across times and across human cultures & civilizations.

**(2 Marks)**

**(2011)**

## Question – 25

As the information on air warfare tasks and stressors was being gathered and scenarios were being developed, a parallel effort ensued to identify a test bed simulation for air warfare teams. To maintain experimental control, it was determined by the designers that choosing a low physical fidelity simulation was acceptable as long as cognitive fidelity in a team simulation was maintained through subjecting soldiers to pressure situations in a simulated combat setting and attempting to ensure that naturalistic decision making of soldiers would not be compromised.

**Which of the following statements, if true, weakens the logic of the above passage?**

- i. A number of studies have shown that high levels of physical stress lead to a weakening of the decision making capabilities of human beings.
- ii. It has been convincingly demonstrated by various studies that human beings by nature are not designed to adapt to high levels of mental stress.
- iii. Numerous studies have shown that simulated environments can be designed to be good substitutes for real life combat situations.
- iv. Studies have shown that simulated exercises for armed forces personnel have tended to induce a systematic type of "correct" and common behaviour among the trainees.
- v. Officers, when short-listing soldiers for critical operations, pick up battle-hardened soldiers rather than those who have been trained through simulations.

A. i and ii    B. ii and iii    C. i and iv    D. i, ii, iv, and v    E. ii, iii, iv and v

**(2 Marks)**

**(2011)**

## Question – 26

The motivation of human beings towards their work is a subject matter that is at once a simple as well as an extremely complicated matter. For a long time, economists, sociologists, as well as psychologists believed that a carrot and stick approach, with monetary incentives playing the role of the carrot, would be sufficient to goad employees towards achieving higher levels of performance. However, a number of recent studies and observations, especially dealing with the open source revolution are placing on the table strong evidence suggesting that monetary incentives are only one part of the entire story of motivation through incentives. In a study conducted by a group of researchers at MIT, it was found that monetary incentives work well only in respect of tasks requiring mechanical skills i.e. those tasks not requiring much use of higher level cognitive abilities (such as memorizing or problem solving). In fact, their study showed that setting high monetary incentives for tasks requiring cognitive abilities were more likely than not to produce adverse outcomes. Since this result flew straight in the face of the widely accepted body of knowledge on employee motivation, they conducted multiple experiments in different settings and countries to ensure that it was not a one-off result. The findings were the same in all repetitions of the experiment. These studies appear to suggest that monetary incentives need to be provided only to such an extent as to take the minds of employee off the issue of money and focus on other issues that are necessary to get the job done right. For instance, some experiments have shown that greater autonomy to employees and lowered interference from management (and bosses) is successful in driving the performance of employees working in cognitive skill intensive jobs.

**Identify the statement(s) that is (are) logically consistent with the content of the paragraph?**

- i. The carrot-stick approach essentially requires the use of rewards to get more of a desired behaviour whereas penalties lead to increased undesirable behaviour.
- ii. Expending time and effort on the design of monetary incentives is a wasteful exercise.
- iii. The study by the group of MIT researchers was a flawed exercise from the start.
- iv. There appears to be a need to reorient the existing paradigm prevalent in incentive design.
- v. During the process of designing incentives, one should clearly delineate activities into those requiring mechanical skills and those requiring higher-level cognitive skills and design with separate sets of incentives and penalties for each.

A. i and iv B. i and v

C. ii and iii

D. ii and iv

E. iv and v

**(2 Marks)**  
**(2011)**



## Question – 27

Randomness has to be dealt with successfully to ensure a better control over one's life. Before one can deal effectively with randomness, one must acknowledge its existence.

**(3 Marks)**

**The above statements imply the following *except*:**

- A. Randomness can be dealt with effectively.
- B. If one acknowledges the existence of randomness, one will be able to deal with it effectively.
- C. One can deal effectively with randomness if and only if one acknowledges its existence.
- D. Everyone lives in a random world.
- E. If one does not acknowledge the existence of randomness, one cannot deal with it effectively.

**(2011)**



## Question – 28

Media are not just passive channels of information. Not only do they supply the stuff of thought, but they also shape the process of thought. And what the Internet seems to be doing is chipping away our capacity for concentration.

**(1 Mark)**

Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument presented above?

- A. Nietzsche was forced to use a typewriter when he started losing his vision. After he mastered the machine, he could type with his eyes closed. It was later found that under the effect of the machine, Nietzsche's prose "changed from arguments to aphorisms, from thoughts to puns, from rhetoric to telegram style".
- B. One of the effects of the timekeeping instruments has been that we have started deciding on our daily activities based on the clock and not based on our senses.
- C. Studies have shown that the essay writing skills of an average 15 - 20 year old, who spends a lot of time browsing the Internet, is comparable to what it was among the average 15-20 year old, throughout the 1980s and the 1990s.
- D. A recent study has shown that the number of people who fall asleep while reading a printed book has increased in the last five years.
- E. The ability of the younger judges, who have grown up with ready access to Internet, to judge complex and intricate cases, has, on an average, become better as compared to what it was for judges of comparable age profile during the 1920s.

**(2011)**



## Question – 29

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument presented in the previous question?

- A. Nietzsche was forced to use a typewriter when he started losing his vision. After he mastered the machine, he could type with his eyes closed. It was later found that under the effect of the machine, Nietzsche's prose "changed from arguments to aphorisms, from thoughts to puns, from rhetoric to telegram style".
- B. One of the effects of the timekeeping instruments has been that we have started deciding on our daily activities based on the clock and not based on our senses.
- C. Studies have shown that the essay writing skills of an average 15 - 20 year old, who spends a lot of time browsing the Internet, is comparable to what it was among the average 15- 20 year old, throughout the 1980s and the 1990s.
- D. A recent study has shown that the number of people who fall asleep while reading a printed book has increased in the last five years.
- E. The ability of the younger judges, who have grown up with ready access to Internet, to judge complex and intricate cases, has, on an average, become better as compared to what it was during the 1920s.

**(1 Mark)**

**(2011)**



## Question – 30

Impressions are direct, vivid, and forceful products of immediate experience; ideas are merely feeble copies of these original impressions.

**Assuming the above statement is true, which of the statements logically follow from it?**

- I. Every impression leads to an idea.
- II. Ideas must follow an antecedent impression.
- III. The colour of the 2011 XAT test booklet right in front of a candidate is an impression to her, whereas the memory of the colour of her television set is an idea.
- IV. If one was interested in the origin of the idea of the colour of a television set, then one need to understand the impressions from which this idea was derived.

- A. I & III
- B. II & III
- C. II & IV
- D. II, III & IV
- E. I, II, III & IV

**(3 Marks)**

**(2011)**



## Question – 31

"It was AC Milan's success in Europe in the sixties that introduced the 'libero' as the Italian default and, a quarter of a century later, it was AC Milan's success in Europe that killed it off."

Which of the following was not implied in the above sentence?

**(1 Mark)**

- A. AC Milan was successful in Europe in the sixties with the help of a 'libero'
- B. AC Milan was successful in Europe in the late eighties without a 'libero'
- C. The 'libero' was an Italian default for almost a quarter of a century.
- D. AC Milan was not successful in Europe for almost a quarter of a century.
- E. The Italians seldom used a 'libero' since late eighties.

**(2012)**



## Question – 32

The 2001 census showed a sharp fall in the literacy rate compared to 1991, but an increase in the literacy rate by 2006 suggests that between 1991 and 2006 India progressed in terms of literacy rate.

**Which of the following statements, if true, best refutes the above argument? (1 Mark)**

- A. One of the causes of more literacy is the increased population growth rate.
- B. Although there was no census in 2006 the information about the literacy rate is reliable.
- C. Many of those who were illiterate in 2001 became literate by 2006.
- D. The rate of fall in literacy rate between 1991 and 2001 was more than the rate of rise in literacy rate between 2001 and 2006.
- E. The rise in literacy rate between 2001 and 2006 was due to persistent campaign on television and FM radio.

**(2012)**



## Question – 33

Alfredo, Diego and Lionel are discussing Argentinean football.

Alfredo: Argentina was a football powerhouse.

Diego: Argentina is a football powerhouse.

Lionel: Argentina will be a football powerhouse.

Which of the following cannot be inferred from the above conversation? **(1 Mark)**

- A. Lionel is optimistic about the future.
- B. Alfredo, Diego and Lionel may disagree on certain things.
- C. Diego views the present positively.
- D. Alfredo completely disagrees with Diego.
- E. Alfredo has positive feelings about the past.

**(2012)**

## Question – 34

Ethologists, people who study animal behaviour, have traditionally divided an organism's actions into two categories: learned behaviour (based on experience) and instinctive behaviour (based on genotype). Some current scholars reject this distinction, claiming that all behaviour is a predictable interaction of experience and genotype.

(1 Mark)

**Which of the following, if true, most strengthens the arguments made in the sentence above?**

- A. All organisms with identical genotypes and identical experience sometimes respond differently in different situations.
- B. All organisms with different genotypes and identical experience always respond identically in identical situations.
- C. All organisms with similar genotypes and similar experience always respond differently in identical situations.
- D. All organisms with identical genotypes and identical experience always respond identically in identical situations.
- E. All organisms with identical genotypes and different experience always respond identically in identical situations.

(2012)



## Question – 35

The benefits of psychotherapy result not only from the advice the therapist gives but also from the supportive relationship offered to the patient. Even though this relationship may cost large amounts of money over many years, most patients interpret the therapist's concern for them as genuine and identify this caring relationship as the primary factor in improving their mental health. However, recent studies have found that only eight percent of therapist/patient relationships continue after the patient terminates formal paid visits. **(1 Mark)**

**Which of the following is in accordance with the ideas contained in the passage? Choose the best option.**

- A. therapists are equally concerned with moneymaking and their patients' well-being.
- B. reading published articles of reputed psychotherapists will hardly be beneficial.
- C. therapists can always treat mental illness without the use of prescription drugs.
- D. therapists who terminate relationships are likely to improve mental health of their patients.
- E. eight percent of patients will continue to improve after termination of therapy.

**(2012)**

## Question – 36

Most of the Asian countries have trade-deficit with China. Bangladesh's trade deficit with China this year has increased by 35%. Despite large increases in exports to China, Indonesia's trade deficit with China continues to increase. So does that of South Korea, home of Samsung Electronics, one of the world's largest manufacturers of electronic gadgets.

**(1 Mark)**

**Which of the following, if true, would be most inconsistent with the above passage?**

- A. China is the largest manufacturer of parts of electronic gadgets and Samsung Electronics imports parts for their gadgets from China.
- B. Exports to Bangladesh are insignificant in proportion of China's total exports.
- C. Exports to Indonesia from China decreased.
- D. Indonesia's chief exports are natural resources.
- E. China has trade deficit with Iran.

**(2012)**



## Question – 37

All who studied commerce enjoy sports. No tax consultant enjoys sports. All those who enjoy sports love classical music.

(1 Mark)

**If the above sentences are true, which of the following also must be true?**

- A. No one who enjoys classical music is a tax consultant by profession.
- B. Every tax consultant enjoys classical music.
- C. No tax consultant enjoys classical music.
- D. No tax consultant studied commerce.
- E. No one who studied commerce enjoy classical music.

(2012)

## Question – 38

When income tax rates are reduced, there is an increase in taxable income, and an Increase In taxable income results in increased total income tax revenues for the government. **(1.5 Mark)**

**Which of the following is analogous to the argument above in terms of its logical features?**

- A. If the city municipal corporation increases taxes on property by 1% it will raise tax revenues, which can be used for garbage disposal management.
- B. The Leader of the Opposition at the Parliament argued that a restriction on the Import of Chinese manufacturing products will increase the sales of Indian manufacturing products.
- C. An advertisement using more than 25 words of text will not be read, and when an advertisement is not read, the product is not sold. Therefore, the fewer words an advertisement has, the more effective it will be in promoting its product.
- D. The balance of payment of a country will improve if the country reduces its imports and increases exports.
- E. Citizens earning more than 15 lakh rupees per annum pay at an increased tax rate of 40%. Citizens earning less than 1 lakh rupees per annum can be exempted from paying income taxes without decreasing the revenues of the Income Tax Department.

**(2012)**



**Thanks!**



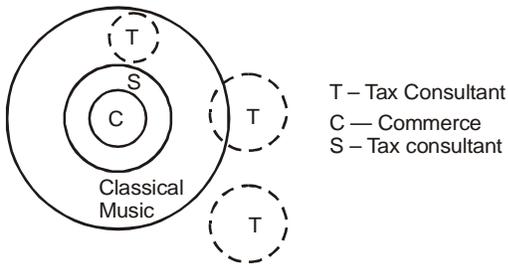
# Answer and Explanations

1	B	2	A	3	C	4	E	5	A	6	C	7	A	8	A	9	E	10	E
11	A	12	C	13	B	14	A	15	B	16	C	17	D	18	D	19	B	20	C
21	D	22	B	23	C	24	E	25	A	26	E	27	B	28	A	29	E	30	D
31	D	32	D	33	D	34	D	35	A	36	C	37	D	38	C				

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| <p>1. B It rejects the argument of the author that CEOs of big organisations should not be paid more salary as compared to the small ones.</p> <p>2. A Except for (A) the rest of the options do not strengthen the speaker's argument. Options (B), (C) and (E) all give reasons as to why CEOs in big organizations should be paid more. Option (A) would add a further reason, one related to education, that would strengthen the speaker's argument that CEOs of small organizations should be paid more.</p> <p>3. C Refer to the paragraph given where it is stated " the government has better ways to spend taxpayers money". Hence this argument is contradicted only by option E.</p> <p>4. E The argument is a simple case of definitive statements by both the parties without any substantial data, so to resolve the conflict we have to take into account the data that validates either of the claims. Statement E best does this by evaluating the accuracy of the predictions by each of the disciplines.</p> <p>5. A The author says that education offers intellectual development in a specific field only. Statement A is contradictory to this statement, hence it undermines the author's contention.</p> <p>6. C The argument states that in the current era of global capital flows, inflation cannot be countered with the tightening of monetary policy by a particular country as there is a free flow of money amongst countries. Therefore, option C can be logically inferred from the argument.</p> <p>7. A The argument states that experience entrepreneurs believe in participatory form of administration. The question asks us to provide the reason for this inclination. Option (A) best provides the reason for this inclination.</p> <p>8. A The argument makes a general conclusion- all parliamentarians voted as per their conscience from the specific example of the parliamentarians whom he interviewed. This makes it an inductive generalization.</p> <p>9. E The argument is analogical because it compares a man discarding garments and the soul discarding bodies.</p> <p>10. E The argument clearly states that 'buying in bulk makes super-markets a practical choice for budget-conscious consumers'; option E is the assumption because it has to be true for the conclusion to follow.</p> <p>11. A The phrase 'Some words are highly inflammable' introduces the main idea which is further substantiated by the specific example of the conflict regarding 'fusion'.</p> | <p>12. C This option best captures the purists' perspective as mentioned in the passage- 'it violates the purity of music'. Option A is more of a neutral stand-point.</p> <p>13. B The author repeatedly states that while doing probability calculations 'we must think of an individual, but of a certain class as a whole.' Thus statement 2 best captures the conclusion that can be drawn from the passage. Statement 3 can be ruled out since the passage does not talk about predicting any future events. Thus, option (B) - only 2 - is the correct answer.</p> <p>14. A 'we can say nothing about the probability of death of an individual even if we know his condition of life and health in detail', this is exactly contrasted by statement A.</p> <p>15. B Option (A) runs counter to what is stated in the passage. The author clearly states that probability can only be calculated on the basis of a group or class, hence B is the answer as it analyses the fight between boxers from two different clubs.</p> <p>16. C The argument in the passage is that since the existence of protons, neutrons and electrons has been experimentally confirmed further research on 'exotic' particles is irrelevant for the larger scientific discipline. Option (C) contradicts this claim by stating that knowledge of a particular phenomenon is essential before its wider application. Thus, option (C) weakens the argument in the passage.</p> <p>17. D Only IV is logically consistent with the argument. It is clearly mentioned in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line of the argument. Statement I cannot be inferred. Statement II can also be negated as the author says that discoveries that came <b>after</b> the neutron, proton and electron are unnecessary. He does not comment about them as such.</p> <p>18. D Option D best addresses the problem as it attempts to modify the pedagogy. None of the other options actually talk about the method of instruction which is the real issue discussed by the author.</p> <p>19. B 'Added energy' is not claimed as a result of <i>Magix</i>, as it is an outcome of the sleep. All the rest are directly claimed as results of taking <i>Magix</i>.</p> <p>20. C The central idea of the passage is that films are not completely dependent on visual appeal. It goes on to substantiate this view by mentioning that successful films have been made from plays, where the emphasis is on words, and some have been shot only on a single set or location. The option that is most opposite to this idea is (C), 'Films are solely built upon visual and eye catching scenes.'</p> |
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21. D The conclusion states that channel owners broadcast more reality shows than other programmes as they are interested in increasing the revenues, hence D has to be a premise as it states that reality shows make more money.
22. B The answer to this question comes from the first line of the poem - "*perhaps this war will pass like the others which divided us*". We can infer that war divides us (Humanity). The rest of the verse talks about the repercussions of war. It does not tell us what happens after the war. Hence we cannot infer - 'Humanity gets reunited afterwards in peace'. All the options except B can be inferred.
23. C The statement by P states that 'being' always is and can 'neither come into existence nor cease to exist.' Similarly, P states that any changes or conflicts 'by belonging to the realm of becoming' are 'unworthy of serious study.' These points are summarized in statements (iv) and (v). Thus, option (C) is the correct answer.
24. E Refer to the lines- "*All things are in the state of perpetual flux..... is the underlying principle at work in the universe* ." These lines support the idea of numerous realities as discussed in statement E.
25. A The argument states that a low physical fidelity system was acceptable. Statement 1 states that the physical stress will affect decision-making abilities, which means that a low physical fidelity system is not a good simulation model. Hence statement 1 weakens the argument. This eliminates options B and E. Statement 2 also weakens the argument as it suggests that despite simulations, humans lack the capacity to adapt to high levels of mental stress.
26. E The passage suggests the need to change the current incentive system. Statements 4 and 5 support this view.
27. B The given argument states that acknowledging randomness is a precondition for dealing with it. The argument is silent on whether acknowledging randomness will ensure that it can be dealt with.
28. A The argument rests on the premise that media are not just passive channels of information. Media here need not necessarily mean the news media or the internet. Note the conjunction "And" in the last sentence. The premise is that the medium which we use influences us. While it does not talk about the internet, Option (A) strengthens this premise. The noticeable change in Nietzsche's prose after he started using a typewriter provides evidence that the change in medium affected him. Option (D) is incorrect because falling asleep while reading a printed book does not mean that concentration levels have decreased all around. (Consider the situation where readers are more interested in reading electronic books and can concentrate on reading as much as before.)
29. E Option (E) directly weakens the argument by showing that the internet has not in the least compromised the ability of younger judges.
30. D The given statement states that impressions result from immediate experience while ideas result from impressions. So statements II and III follow. Statement IV talks about the origin of the idea of the colour of a television set. Since ideas are always derived from impressions, statement IV is also correct according to the given statement. Statement I cannot, however, be concluded from the given statement. While ideas are always derived from impressions, it does not follow that all impressions will give rise to ideas.
31. D Options B, C, and E are implied in the given sentence. Option A can somewhat be interpreted from the sentence, that AC Milan was successful in the sixties, though the usage of 'help' makes this option debatable. The second part of the sentence indicates that a quarter of a century (25 years) later than the sixties, which comes out to be in the eighties (as mentioned in option B) AC Milan was successful even though the libero was killed off. Option C is easily interpreted from the sentence that the libero was introduced in the sixties as the Italian default and it remained so for another quarter of a century before getting killed off. Since the libero was killed in the eighties, the Italians seldom used it since late eighties. So, option E is implied as well. The sentence says that AC Milan was successful along with the libero and later without a libero too, but it never says he wasn't successful himself during those twenty five years. Thus, option D is not implied and is clearly a better choice over option A.
32. D The argument states that the literacy rate fell between 1991 and 2001 and rose again in the period 2001-2006 concluding that India progressed in terms of literacy rate. It says that the drop in the rate from 1991 to 2001 was greater than the rise in the period 2001-2006 which does not indicate progress from 1991 to 2006 since there is a net fall in the literacy rate during this period. Thus, option D refutes the conclusion drawn in the argument.
33. D All options except D are inferred from the conversation. Alfredo talks about Argentina being a football powerhouse in the past, while Diego talks about the team being a powerhouse in the present. The two are talking about different time frames and hence it can't be inferred that either of them may completely disagree with the other.
34. D The argument states that ethnologists divide an organism's actions as learned i.e. experience based and instinctive i.e. genotype based behavior. Some current scholars reject this distinction by saying that all animal behavior is a result of predictable interaction of experience and genotype. This means if all organisms have identical genotype and all of them undergo identical experience, they would exhibit identical behavior. Option D strengthens the claim made by the current scholars by stating the same.
35. A Therapists continue a therapeutic relationship until the patient is retained to stability and can function normally. Once this is achieved the therapist will not have sessions with the patient as (i) s/he has retained the patients' well-being (ii) each therapeutic session has to be paid for. The last line of the information mentions that very few therapist/patient relationships continue after the paid sessions are terminated. Hence, the correct answer is option 1. Option A is correct.
36. C Trade deficit means the negative balance of trade in which a country's imports exceed its exports. Option C is inconsistent because had the exports from China to Indonesia decreased, Indonesia's trade deficit would not have increased.

37. D The Venn diagram given below explains how each of the other options are incorrect except option D.



Since the set of tax consultants can lie anywhere outside sports i.e. completely outside the set of classical music, partly in it or completely outside it, we cannot say all tax consultants or no tax consultant enjoys classical music. This clearly negates options A, B and C. Option E is false as well since the set of commerce lies within the sports set and the sports set in turn lies within classical music. Which means the commerce set lies within classical music too. The commerce set lies within the sports set. The tax consultant set and sports set are disjointed sets. Thus, commerce and tax consultant sets are disjointed too. This makes D the correct option.

38. C The argument can be broken down to simpler terms. It states that if A is reduced, B increases which causes an increase in C. Option C is analogous to this. It says if number of words is more, the advertisement won't be read, and if it isn't read, the product won't be sold. Thus, reducing the number of words in an advertisement would lead to an increase in readership and subsequently increase in sales.



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